

Claims

1. A media device having at least first and second media outputs and respective associated first and second control inputs, the media device being arranged to select or modify media signals for output on the first and/or second media outputs in response to control signals received on either of the first and second control inputs; the device being further arranged to apply a common setting to the media signals output on the first and second media outputs; wherein the device is arranged to adopt a predetermined first or second setting as said common setting according to whether control signals are received respectively on said first or said second inputs.
2. A device according to claim 1, wherein said first and/or second settings are modifiable by a user.
3. A device according to claim 2, wherein the first and second settings are modifiable by the control signals input at the first and/or second control inputs.
4. A device according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the media signals include video signals.
5. A device according to claim 4, wherein the common setting comprises a picture format of the video signals.
6. A device according to claim 5, wherein the picture format comprises an aspect ratio.
7. A device according to any one of claims 1 to 6, wherein the media signals include audio signals.
8. Apparatus including a device according to any preceding claim, a media relay for conveying the media signals from the second media output to a media player at a location remote from the device, and a control relay for relaying the control signals from the remote location to the device.
9. Apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the control relay is arranged to receive said control signals from a line-of-sight remote controller.
10. Apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the media device is arranged to receive the control signals at the first control input from said line-of-sight remote controller.

11. Apparatus according to claim 9 or 10, wherein the line-of-sight remote controller is an infra-red remote control.

12. A media system including apparatus according to any one of claims 8 to 11, a first media player at a first location, means for conveying to the first control input said control signals initiated by a user from the first location, a second media player at a second location, and means for conveying to the second control input said control signals initiated by the user from the second location.

13. A television broadcast receiver arranged to output on primary and secondary outputs a video signal having a picture format common to said primary and secondary video outputs, and having an infrared receiver for receiving control signals from a remote control, and an auxiliary control input for receiving control signals from the remote control via a remote control extender, the receiver being arranged to detect whether a control signal is received by the infrared receiver or at the auxiliary control input, and to apply selectively a first or a second said picture format to said video signal, dependent on said detection.

14. A receiver according to claim 13, wherein the picture format comprises an aspect ratio.

15. A receiver according to claim 13 or 14, wherein the first and second picture formats are selectable by a user.

16. A method of setting a media output format for a media device having at least first and second media outputs and respective associated first and second control inputs, the media device being arranged to select or modify media signals for output on the first and/or second media outputs in response to control signals received on either of the first and second control inputs; the device being further arranged to apply a common setting to the media signals output on the first and second media outputs; the method comprising detecting whether the control signals are received on said first or said second inputs, and adopting respectively a predetermined first or second setting as said common setting in response to said detecting step.

17. A method according to claim 16, including modifying said first and/or second settings in response to user input.

18. A method according to claim 16 or 17, wherein the media signals include video signals.
19. A method according to claim 18, wherein the common setting comprises a picture format of the video signals.
- 5 20. A method according to claim 19, wherein the picture format comprises an aspect ratio.
21. A method according to any one of claims 16 to 20, wherein the media signals include audio signals.
22. A computer program including program steps for performing a method according
10 to any one of claims 16 to 21 when executed by the media device.
23. A computer program product comprising the computer program of claim 22 recorded on a carrier.
24. A broadcast signal including a computer program according to claim 22.
25. A method substantially as herein described with reference to Figure 6 of the
15 accompanying drawings.
26. A wireless audio base station for receiving audio signals and programme schedule data, and for relaying the audio signals and the schedule data over a local wireless link to a wireless audio receiver, wherein the schedule data is encoded for transmission over the wireless link using a code which does not represent an image.
- 20 27. A base station according to claim 26, including a control signal receiver for receiving user control signals over the wireless link from the audio receiver.
28. A base station according to claim 27, responsive to the user control signals to vary a received broadcast channel containing said audio signals.
29. A base station according to claim 27 or 28, responsive to the user control signals
25 to vary the schedule data transmitted over the wireless link.
30. A base station according to any one of claims 27 to 29, wherein the control signal receiver is an RF receiver.
31. A base station according to any one of claims 28 to 30, including a control signal output for outputting said control signals to a broadcast receiver.

32. A base station according to claim 31, including an audio input for receiving said audio signals from said broadcast receiver.
33. A base station according to any one of claims 26 to 32, including an RF transmitter for transmitting over the wireless link.
- 5 34. A base station according to any one of claims 26 to 33, wherein the schedule data transmitted over the wireless link includes information on a current programme comprising the received audio signals.
35. A base station according to claim 34, wherein the schedule data transmitted over the wireless link includes information on a different programme from the current
10 programme.
36. A base station according to any one of claims 26 to 35, wherein the code is a character code.
37. A base station according to claim 36, wherein the code includes tags identifying the type of data encoded in the character code.
- 15 38. A wireless audio receiver for receiving wireless audio signals and programme schedule data over a local wireless link from a wireless audio base station, and displaying the programme schedule data on a display, wherein the programme schedule data is encoded using a code which does not represent an image and the audio receiver is arranged to convert said code to an image on said display.
- 20 39. A receiver according to claim 38, including a control signal transmitter for transmitting user control signals over the wireless link to the audio base station.
40. A receiver according to claim 39, wherein said control signal transmitter is an RF transmitter.
41. A receiver according to claim 39 or 41, including a user-operable control for
25 initiating said control signals.
42. A receiver according to any one of claims 38 to 41, including an RF receiver for receiving said wireless audio signals and schedule data.
43. A receiver according to any one of claims 38 to 42, wherein the code is a character code.

44. A receiver according to claim 43, wherein the code includes tags identifying the type of data encoded in the character code, the receiver being arranged to display the programme data on the display in dependence on said tags.

5 45. A broadcast receiver for receiving audio programmes and programme schedule data relating to the audio programmes and for retransmitting the audio programmes and the schedule data over a local wireless link, wherein the schedule data is retransmitted in a character-based format.

10 46. A wireless audio player for receiving audio programmes and programme schedule data relating to the programmes transmitted over a local wireless link from a broadcast receiver, wherein the schedule data is transmitted in a character-based format and displayed by the wireless audio player as characters on a display.